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Date: 1/22/97 2:33 PM

Priority: Normal

TO: F-ARM-NPRM-COMMENTS at ARM

Subject: Grand Canyon Rule

FAA-03-14715-36

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It appears you have defied the direction of congress to restore natural quiet to the Grand Canyon with this rule. In fact you have significantly debased the standards proposed in the draft rule.

- 1) No aircraft below 15000 feet above MSL in flight-free zones.
- 2) Tour operators should be required to convert to the quietest technology available.
- 3) An immediate cap on the number overflights of the Grand Canyon, no matter where they originate.
- 4) An immediate cap on the number of operators.
- 5) A flight-free zone from Grapevine Rapid to Soap Creek Rapid (eastern Grand Canyon and Marble Canyon.
- 5) Noise categories should be made more stringent. In particular, all present helicopters should be in category A.

The Grand Canyon was not set aside to enrich air tour operators, but to safeguard for all time its natural values. A crucial part of this is its quiet, which has been grossly degraded by your failure to exercise required oversight, even in the short time I have been acquainted with the canyon.

Earl Perry

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